

ABSTRACT

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An availability system used for a travel planning system is described. The system includes a cache having entries of availability information of seats for a mode of transportation. The system also includes and a cache manager that manages entry information in the cache so that information in the cache is correct, current, complete, or otherwise as useful as possible. The cache manager determines when a stored answer is stale and, if a stored answer is stale, sends an availability query to an source of availability information.

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